

Presented
to
Robert B. Bond
by
William Graham

No. 1.



7689814

Presented
to
Robert B. Bond
by
William Graham

No. 1.



7689814

Reward
to
Robert L. Bond
for
Geography.
No. 2.

James
Robert
William
To

CHAPTER

1 A T 1 9 2 0 H

MAINTENANCE and EDUCATION

YOUNG CHILDREN

George the Strong, by the Queen of Cast, and
John the Strong, by the Queen of Cast.



London. III Foundling Hospital.
12 THE

ROYAL CHARTER,
ESTABLISHING AN
HOSPITAL
FOR THE
MAINTENANCE and EDUCATION
OF
EXPOSED and DESERTED
YOUNG CHILDREN.

*GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of God, and so
forth, to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting.*

Preamble.

Whereas Our Trusty and Well-beloved
Subject, *Thomas Coram*, Gentleman, in
behalf of great Numbers of helpless Infants,
daily exposed to Destruction, has by his Petition,
humbly represented unto Us, that many Persons
of Quality and Distinction, as well as others,
of both Sexes, (being sensible of the frequent
Murders committed on poor miserable Infants by
their Parents, to hide their Shame, and the in-
human Custom of exposing new-born Children
to perish in the Streets, or training them up in
Idleness, Beggary, and Theft) have, by Instru-
ments in Writing, declared their Intentions to
contribute liberally towards the erecting an Hos-
pital, after the Example of other Christian Coun-
tries, and for supporting the same, for the Re-
ception, Maintenance, and proper Education of
such helpless Infants, as soon as We should be
graciously pleased to grant Our Letters Patent for
that good Purpose: That several Legacies having
been

Anno decimo tertio

GEORGII H. Regis,

1739.

An Act for confirming and enlarging the Powers granted by His Majesty to the Governors and Guardians of the Hospital, for the Maintenance and Education of exposed and deserted young Children, by His most Gracious Charter, bearing Date the Seventeenth Day of October, in the Year of Our Lord One thousand seven hundred and thirty-nine, and to enable them to execute the good Purposes of the said Charter.

Whereas His Majesty, in Compassion to the Numbers of poor Infants, who are liable to be exposed to perish in the Streets, or be murdered by their indigent and inhuman Parents, has been most graciously pleased, by His Royal Charter under the Great Seal of Great-Britain, to create and establish a Corporation or Body Politic, by the Name of *The Governors and Guardians of the Hospital for the Maintenance and Education of exposed and deserted young Children*; which Corporation is by the said Charter declared to have perpetual Succession, and empowered to take, hold, purchase, receive, and possess Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, to the Value of Four thousand Pounds a Year, and Goods, Chattels, and Personal Estate of what Nature and Value soever; and to purchase or erect an Hospital for the Support, Maintenance, and Education of exposed and deserted Children; and to hold Courts, to make By-laws, and to

Preamble.

A 2

elect

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

been bequeathed for the same, to be paid by Executors, when any such Hospital shall be properly established here; the Petitioner therefore hath humbly prayed Us, that We would be graciously pleased to grant Our Royal Charter for incorporating such Persons, as We shall think fit for receiving and disposing of Charities for erecting and supporting an Hospital for the Reception, Maintenance, and proper Education of such exposed and cast-off Children as may be brought to it, under such Rules and Regulations, as to Us may seem meet.

We, taking the Premises into our Royal Consideration, and being desirous to promote so good and laudable an Establishment, are graciously pleased to gratify the Petitioner in his Request.

Know ye therefore, That We of Our especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, have willed, ordained, constituted, and appointed, and by these Presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, **Do will**, ordain, constitute, declare and grant, That [*The Governors Names, and all Privy Conncillors for the Time being*] and such others, as shall from time to time be elected in the Manner herein after directed, they and their Successors be, and shall for ever hereafter be, by virtue of these Presents, one Body Politic and Corporate, in Deed and in Name by the Name of *The Governors and Guardians of the Hospital for the Maintenance and Education of exposed and deserted young Children*; and them and their Successors by the same Name, We do by these Presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, constitute and declare to be one Body Politic and Corporate, in Deed and in Law; and by the same Name they and their Successors shall and may have perpetual Succession; and that they and their Successors,

Name of the
Corporation.

Power to

Anno decimo tertio Georgii II. Regis.

elect Governors and Officers, and to do other Acts for the Purposes of the said Charter:— And whereas great Sums of Money have been given by the Governors of the said Hospital, and other Persons, to be applied to the charitable Uses before mentioned: And whereas by Reason of the Laws now in Force, for the Relief of the Poor, many Difficulties may arise in carrying into Execution the good Intents of the said Charter, and that the granting other and further Powers to the said Corporation is requisite, effectually to answer the Purposes aforesaid; may it please Your Majesty that it may be enacted.

And be it therefore enacted, by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That the said Corporation, called *The Governors and Guardians of the Hospital for the Maintenance and Education of exposed and deserted young Children*; and their Successors, shall have Power, by any Instrument under their common Seal, to contract for, or to purchase any Lands Tenements, or Hereditaments, provided the same do not exceed the Value of Four Thousand Pounds a Year in Fee, beyond Reprizes, or take or purchase for any Term or Terms of Years, or as Tenants, from Year to Year, or at Will, any

Name of the Corporation.

Power to enjoy 4000l. a Year.
Lands

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

enjoy 4000l.
a Year.

and Goods
and Chattels.

Succeffors, by that Name, shall and may for ever hereafter be Persons able and capable in the Law, and may have Power, notwithstanding the Statute of Mortmain, to purchase, have, take, receive, and enjoy, to them and their Succeffors, Manors, Messuages, Lands, Rents, Tenements, Annuities, and Hereditaments, of whatsoever Nature or Kind, in Fee and Perpetuity, or for Terms of Life or Years, not exceeding the yearly Value of Four thousand Pounds beyond Reprizes, so far as they are not restrained by Law; and all Manner of Goods, Chattels, and Things whatsoever, of what Nature or Value soever, for the better Support and Maintenance of such poor, deserted Children, as shall be received into the said Hospital, in the Manner herein after mentioned.

Lands or Tenements whatsoever, to hold and enjoy the same, and to erect any House or Houses, Building or Buildings thereon, or to convert any House or Houses, Building or Buildings, which they shall so purchase or hire for that Purpose, to be an Hospital or Hospitals for the Reception of such poor and exposed Children, in such Manner as to the said Corporation shall seem meet,

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every House or Houses, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments which shall at any Time hereafter be purchased or hired by the said Corporation, to be used or converted into an Hospital or Hospitals, as aforesaid, or on which any such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses shall be erected, shall at all Times hereafter, whilst such House or Houses, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments shall continue in the Possession of the said Corporation, be rated and assessed to all Rates and Assessments, at such yearly Rents or Value, and in such Proportion, as such House or Houses, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments were rated and assessed in the Year one thousand seven hundred thirty and nine, and shall not at any Time hereafter, so long as they shall continue in the Possession of the said Corporation, as aforesaid, be rated or assessed at any higher Value, notwithstanding any Improvement which shall be hereafter made by the said Corporation, of or upon the same, by erecting any such House or Houses,

Taxes on
Lands, &c.
not to be
raised above
what was paid
in 1739,

though im-
proved for
the Use of
the Corpora-
tion.

or

or other Building or Buildings thereon, or by converting any Building or Buildings into such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses; any Law, Statute, or Usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

And that the said Corporation may not be prevented from erecting or enjoying such Buildings as may be most convenient for the Purposes aforesaid, by the Incapacity or legal Disability of any Person or Persons to convey, though on Terms which would be for the Benefit and Advantage of such Person or Persons; be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for all Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate; Corporations aggregate or sole; Femmes Covert, who are or shall be seized in their own Right; Trustees and Feoffees in Trust, Guardians and Committees for Lunaticks and Ideots; Executors, Administrators, and Guardians whatsoever, not only for or on Behalf of themselves; their Heirs and Successors, but also for and on Behalf of their *Cestuique* Trusts; whether Infants or Issue unborn, Lunaticks, Ideots; Femmes Covert, or other Person whatsoever; and to and for all and every Person and Persons, who are or shall be seized or possessed of, or interested in any Lands, Messuages, or Tenements; which the said Corporation shall judge to be proper to be by them purchased or hired, in order to the erecting such House or Houses, Building or Buildings, as aforesaid, or to the converting any House or Houses, Building or Buildings to their Use, as aforesaid; to contract for, sell, convey, or to farm let to the said Corporation, or their Successors; or such Persons as they shall appoint in Trust for them, all or any such Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments or any Part thereof: Provided, That every such Contract so to be made by or on

Femes Covert, &c. may sell Lands or Tenements to the Corporation.

B

Behalf

Behalf of any Person, under any Incapacity to convey, be, before it is carried into Execution, approved of by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Keeper, or the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal of *Great-Britain* for the time being, on a Petition or Petitions to him or them exhibited on Behalf of such Person or Persons for that Purpose; and the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Keeper, or Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal for the time being, are hereby impowered, authorized, and required, in a summary Way, without any Bill filed, to examine into the Allegations of any such Petition, and to approve or disapprove of any such Contract, and to give such Direction for the Disposition of the Money arising therefrom, as to him or them shall seem just; and that all such Contracts, Agreements, Bargains, Sales, and Conveyances, which shall be so made, as aforesaid, shall be good and valid in Law, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever, not only to convey the Estate and Interest of the Person or Persons conveying, but also to convey all Right, Estate, Interest, Use, Property, Claim, and Demand whatsoever of their several and respective *Cestuique* Trusts, whether Infants, or Issue unborn, Lunaticks, Ideots, Femmes Covert, or other Person whatsoever, and all Persons claiming, or to claim by, from, or under them; any Law, Statute, Usage, or any other Matter or Thing whatsoever, to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Conveyances
to be ap-
proved of by
the Lord
Chancellor,
&c.

Provided always, and be it enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Sum and Sums of Money arising from or paid by the said Corporation to any Bodies Politic, Corporate, or Collegiate, Corporations aggregate or sole, Femmes Covert, who are or shall be seized

Money paid
for Lands or
Tenements
to Femmes Co-
vert, &c. to

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

Power to sell
or exchange
Lands, &c.

To sue and
be sued.

may have a
common
Seal.

And also to sell, grant, demise, exchange, and dispose of any of the same Manors, Messuages, Lands, and Tenements, whereof and wherein they shall have any Estate of Inheritance, or for Life, Lives, or Years, as aforesaid; and that by the Name aforesaid they shall and may be able to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended, in all Courts and Pleas whatsoever of Us, Our Heirs and Successors, in all Actions, Plaints, Matters, and Demands whatsoever, and to act and do in all Matters and Things relating to the said Corporation, in as ample Manner and Form, as any other Our liege Subjects, being Persons able and capable in the Law, or any other Body Politic or Corporate in this Part of of Our Kingdom of *Great-Britain* called *England*, lawfully may or can act or do; and that the said Corporation for ever hereafter shall and may have and use a common Seal for the Causes and Businesses of them and their Successors; and that it shall and may be lawful for them and their Successors, to change, break, alter, and make new the said Seal from time to time, as they shall think fit,

seized in their own Right, Trustees or Feoffees in Trust, Guardians or Committees for Lunatics or Ideots, Executors, Administrators, or Guardians, as aforesaid, as the Consideration or Purchase-money for any Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments for erecting such House or Houses, Building or Buildings for an Hospital or Hospitals for the Reception of such poor and exposed Children, shall be laid out in the Purchase of other Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments, to be settled to the same Uses, and stand charged with, and liable to the same Charge or Charges, as the Messuages, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments so sold and conveyed were settled, liable to, and chargeable with; any thing in this Act contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

be laid out in other Lands, made liable to the same Uses.

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1. The first part of the document is a list of names and titles, including "The Hon. Mr. Justice" and "The Hon. Mr. Justice".

Anno decimo tertio Georgii II. Regis

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Corporation, or any Person or Persons authorized by them, to receive, maintain and educate all or as many Children as they shall think fit, into or in any Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, which shall by the said Corporation be erected, purchased, or hired for such Purposes; and that it shall be lawful for all and evry Person whatsoever to bring any Child or Children whatsoever to any such Hospital or House, as aforesaid, to the end that such Child or Children may be received, maintained, and educated by the said Corporation therein, in case they shall think proper to receive the same; and that no Church-warden, Overseer or other Person whatsoever, shall, by Virtue or Authority of any Law in being, for the Provision or the Maintenance of the Poor, or for Bastard Children, stop, molest, or disturb any Person in bringing any such Child or Children to any such Hospital or House, as aforesaid, or in returning from the same: and that every Church-warden, Overseer or other Person whatsoever, stopping, disturbing, or molesting any such Person or Persons contrary to the true Intent and Meaning hereof, shall forfeit the Sum of Forty Shillings for every such Offence; Half of which shall be paid to the Informer, and Half to the Use of the said Hospital; which Forfeiture shall be levied by Warrant under the Hands and Seals of any Two of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County, Liberty, or Franchise where such Offence shall be committed.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Overseer or Overseers of the Poor, Church-warden or Church-wardens, or other Officer, appointed for the Care and Maintenance of

Corporation to maintain and educate as many Children as they think fit.

No Church-warden, &c. to hinder any Persons bringing their Children to the Hospital.

on Penalty of 40s.

No Parish Officer shall have any Authority in the Hospital.

THE ROYAL CHARTER

Corporation
to maintain
and educate
as many
Children as
they shall think

And be it further enacted by the Authority
aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and
for the said Corporation, or any Person or Persons
authorised by them, to receive, maintain and edu-
cate all or as many Children as they shall think
fit, into or in any Hospital or Hospitals, House
or Houses, which shall by the said Corporation be
erected, purchased or hired for such purposes;
and that it shall be lawful for all and every Person
whosoever to bring any Child or Children hither-
to or to any such Hospital or House, as aforesaid,
to the end that such Child or Children may be
received, maintained, and educated by the said
Corporation therein, in case they shall think pro-
per to receive the same; and that no Church-
warden, Overseer or other Person whatsoever,
shall, by Virtue or Authority of any Law in
being, for the Provision or the Maintenance of the
Poor, or for Bristled Children, beg, receive, or
disturb any Person in bringing any such Child or
Children to any such Hospital or House, as aforesaid,
or in returning from the same; and that
every Church-warden, Overseer or other Person
whosoever, stopping, disturbing, or molesting
any such Person or Persons contrary to the true
Intent and Meaning hereof, shall forfeit the Sum
of Forty Shillings for every such Offence; Half
of which shall be paid to the Informer, and Half
to the Use of the said Hospital; which forfeiture
shall be levied by Writ under the Hands and
Seals of any Two of His Majesty's Justices of the
Peace for the County, Liberty or Franchise
where such Offence shall be committed.

And be it further enacted by the Authority
aforesaid, That no Overseer or Overseers of the
Poor, Church-warden or Church-wardens, or other
Officer, appointed for the Care and Maintenance
of

of the Poor, shall have or exercise any Power or Authority in any such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, which shall be appointed for the Reception of such poor Children, as aforesaid, nor shall have any Authority to enquire concerning the Birth or Settlement of any such Child or Children, who shall be therein maintained and educated, or to place them out Apprentices, or to do any other Act, Matter, or Thing whatsoever, within such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, Place or Places, appointed by the said Corporation for the Reception, Maintenance, or Education of such Children, as aforesaid, save only to collect or levy such Taxes, as they are or shall be by any Act of Parliament impowered to levy and collect.

And be it further enacted, That no Child or Children, Nurse or Nurses, Servant or Servants, received, maintained, educated, or employed within any such Hospital or Hospitals, Place or Places, which shall be built, purchased, hired, or appointed by the said Corporation for the Reception, Maintenance, or Education of such poor Children, as aforesaid, shall gain any Settlement in the Parish or Parishes, Place or Places, where such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, Place or Places are situate, by virtue of such their Reception, Continuance, Hiring, or Residence in such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, Place or Places; any Law, Custom, Usage, Matter, or Thing whatsoever, to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding. Nor shall any Mortuary Fee, or Reward whatsoever, be due or payable to any Rector, Vicar, Curate, Minister, Clerk, Sexton, or other Officer of any Parish or Parishes, where such Hospital or Hospitals, House or Houses, Place or

No Settlement by being educated in the Hospital.

No Fees due to any Parish for Christenings or Burials.

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

of the Poor, shall have or exercise any Power or Authority in any such Hospital or Workhouse, or House of Refuge, which shall be appointed for the Reception of such poor Children, as aforesaid, nor shall have any Authority to exercise or exercise the Right or Privilege of any such Child or Children, who shall be therein committed and educated, or to place therein any Apprentice, or to do any other Act, Matter or Thing whatsoever, within such Hospital or Workhouse, House of Refuge, or House of Refuge, appointed for the Reception of such Children, as aforesaid, save or Education of such Children, as aforesaid, save only to collect or levy such Taxes as they are or shall be by any Act or Parliament imposed, to levy and collect.

And be it further enacted, That no Child
 or Children, Male or Female, between the Age
 of seven and fifteen years, shall be
 employed within any such Hospital or House
 of Children, which shall be built, purchased,
 leased, or appointed by the said Corporation for
 the Reception, Maintenance, or Education of
 such poor Children, as aforesaid, that may be
 committed to the Parish of St. Andrew, within
 the said Hospital or House, or to any
 other Place or Places, and that no Person
 shall be employed in such Hospital or House,
 or in any other Place or Places, any Law,
 Custom, Usage, Manner, or Thing whatsoever,
 to the contrary thereof in anywise notwithstanding.
 Nor shall any Person receive or be paid
 any Salary, Fee, or Reward, whatsoever, for
 the due or proper discharge of his
 Office, as aforesaid, either as a
 Member, Officer, or Minister, of any
 Hospital or House, or as a Minister, of any
 other Place or Places.

Places shall be situate, for or on Account of the Christening, Death, or Burial of any Child or Children, who shall be so maintained and educated by the said Corporation, as aforesaid, who shall be christened, die, or be buried during their Continuance under the Care of the said Corporation: And the Offices of Baptism and Burial of all such Children, shall be performed by such Minister or Ministers of the Church of *England*, as the said Corporation shall agree with and employ for that Purpose; and no other Person or Persons whatsoever shall be obliged to perform the same: And the said Corporation shall provide sufficient Burial Ground for all Children dying under their Care; and shall not be intitled to make use of any Church-yard or Burial Place belonging to the Parishioners of any Parish, for the Burying of any such Child or Children.

Corporation to provide Minister and Burial Ground.

And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Corporation, or any Person or Persons who shall be by them authorized and appointed, to detain and employ in any Sort of Labour or Manufacture, or in the Sea Service, all and every such Child or Children by them so maintained and educated, till such Children shall attain the respective Ages following; that is to say, Until every such Male Child shall attain his Age of Twenty-four Years, and every such Female Child shall attain her Age of Twenty-one Years, or shall be married; or to bind any such Child or Children Apprentice or Apprentices to any Person or Persons who shall be willing to take the same, or to place them out as Servants, or as Mariners, to any Husbandman, Master, or Captain of a Ship, or other Person

Persons educated in the Hospital, how to be employed.

THE ROYAL CHARTER,

One President, six Vice-presidents, and one Treasurer.

Names of the first in those Offices;

to continue until the second Wednesday in May, 1749.

And, for the better Execution of the Purposes
aforesaid, **We do declare and grant,** That
the said Corporation, and their Successors for
ever, shall have One President, Six Vice-presi-
dents, and One Treasurer; and that *John Duke*
of *Bedford* be the first President; that *Micajah*
Perry, *Lord Vere Beauclerk*, *Sir Joseph Eyles*,
Martin Folkes, *Peter Burrel*, and *James Cook* be
the Six first Vice-presidents; and that *Lewis*
Way be the first Treasurer of the said Corpora-
tion, each of them respectively to continue in
their several and respective Offices of President,
Vice-presidents, and Treasurer, until the second
Wednesday in May, One thousand seven hundred
and

whatsoever, till their said respective Ages, as
aforesaid; and that every such Binding or Hiring
shall be as effectual to all Purposes, as if such
Child were of full Age, and by Indenture or
otherwise had bound or hired themselves.

And further, That it shall be lawful to the
said Corporation, or any Person or Persons by
them authorized and impowered for that Purpose,
at any time or times, so long as any Child or
Children shall continue to be maintained by the
said Corporation, to hire or let out such Child or
Children to any Person or Persons who shall de-
sire to contract with the said Corporation, for the
Work and Labour of such Child or Children,
and to receive and take to the Use of the said
Corporation, the Profit arising for such their
Work and Labour, and to give such reasonable
Correction to any such Child or Children for their
Idleness, Disobedience, or Misbehaviour, as they
shall think proper; and that every such Child or
Children shall be under the Direction and Con-
troul of the said Corporation, so long as they
shall continue to maintain such Child or Children.

Children may
be let for Hire,
to work
abroad for
the Use of the
Hospital.

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

and forty, and until others shall be chosen in their respective Rooms.

First Meeting
within 40
Days.

May chuse
one or more
Secretaries,
and other Of-
ficers and
Servants, to
serve until the
second *Wed-
nesday* in *May*,
1740.

One or more
Committee
or Commit-
tees to be
chosen; to
continue un-
til the second
Wednesday in
May, 1740,
have Power
to direct, ma-
nage, and
transact, and
take in Chil-
dren accord-

And Our Will and Pleasure is, That the said President, Vice-presidents, and Treasurer, and the rest of the Members of the said Corporation also above-named, or as many of them the said President, Vice-presidents, and Members as conveniently can, may, within Forty Days next after the Date of this Our Grant, meet together at such Time and Place as the said President shall appoint by Summons, or other Notice, which he is by these Presents impowered and required timely to issue for that Purpose, to the said Members, or such of them as live within the Cities of *London* or *Westminster*, or the Borough of *Southwark*, or within Two Miles thereof; where they, or the major Part of them then present, may chuse by Ballot One or more Secretaries, and such other inferior Officers and Servants as shall be thought convenient and useful for the Purposes of the said Corporation, and to serve in the said Offices respectively, until the second *Wednesday* in the Month of *May*, One thousand seven hundred and forty, and until others shall be elected in their respective Rooms, unless they shall sooner die, or be removed; and at such Meetings One or more Committee or Committees shall be chosen out of the Members of the said Corporation, to consist of such Number and Persons, as to the said General Court shall seem proper; which Committee or Committees shall continue until the said second *Wednesday* in the Month of *May*, in the said Year One thousand seven hundred and forty, and shall have Power to direct, manage, and transact all the Business, Affairs, Estate, and Effects of the said Corporation, and take in, receive, maintain, and employ

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

ing to such Rules and Directions as shall be made by General Courts.

May erect or purchase a fitting Place to be an Hospital.

ploy such poor deserted Children, according to such Rules and Directions as shall be made and established from time to time by General Courts; to which said General Courts We do by these Presents; for Us, Our Heirs, and Successors, give and grant full Power and Authority to make and establish such Rules and Directions for the Reception, Maintenance, and Employment of such poor deserted Children; as they, or the major Part of them shall think meet, fit and convenient, from time to time; and for that Purpose such Committee or Committees may erect or purchase such fitting Place to be an Hospital for the Reception of such Children.

Every second *Wednesday* in *May* yearly, to be a General Meeting, to elect by Ballot all succeeding Presidents, Vice-presidents, Treasurer, and Committees; to continue until the second *Wednesday* in *May* following.

All succeeding Secretaries, Officers, and Servants,

And Our further Will is, That on every second *Wednesday* in the Month of *May* yearly, there shall and may be a General Meeting of the Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation in the said Hospital, or at some other convenient Place, until the said Hospital be made ready to receive them, for the electing by Ballot all succeeding Presidents, Vice-presidents, Treasurers, and Committees out of the Members of the said Corporation, by Majority of Votes of all the Members then personally present, to continue in their respective Offices until the second *Wednesday* in the said Month of *May* following, and until others shall be chosen in their respective Rooms; and that all succeeding Secretaries, and other inferior Officers and Servants, be annually appointed, or oftner, if needful, by the major Part of the Governors and Guardians for the

And be it further enacted by the Authority President, &c.
 aforesaid, That the President, Vice-presidents, to be chosen
 and Treasurer of the said Corporation, shall annually.
 respectively continue as such, until there shall be
 others chosen into their respective Offices; and
 that for that Purpose there shall, on the second
Wednesday, which shall be in the Month of *May*
 next, and so on every second *Wednesday* in the
 Month of *May* yearly, for ever, be a general every second
 Meeting of the Governors and Guardians of the *Wednesday* in
 said Hospital; and that the Governors and Guar- *May.*
 dians then present, shall proceed to the Election
 of a President, Six Vice-presidents, and a Treas-
 urer; which Election shall be by Ballot, and de-
 termined by the Majority of the Votes of the
 Governors and Guardians present at such Election.

D

And

to be annually appointed, or oftner, if needful, at General Meetings.

the time being, then present at their General Meeting; and in case of an Equality of Votes, the President, or in case of his Death or Absence, the Vice-president first named in the List of Vice-presidents then present, to have a double or casting Voice, and at such Salaries as they shall think reasonable.

And in case it shall happen at any time or times hereafter, that the said Election cannot be made or compleated on the second *Wednesday* in the Month of *May* next, or in any other Year, that then, and as often as it shall so happen, such new Election shall be made within the Space of Forty Days, to be computed from such second *Wednesday* in *May*; and for that Purpose the Majority of the Governors and Guardians then present, shall have Power to adjourn such Meeting to any Day within such Forty Days; Notice of which Adjournment, as also of all other General Meetings, shall be given in the *Gazette*, and also (in case the said Governors and Guardians present at any Meeting, or the major Part of them shall so direct) in any other public News Paper, at least Three Days before such General Meeting whether annual, quarterly, or special. And the Persons elected at any such Meeting or Meetings, by Ballot, as aforesaid, by the Majority of the Votes of the Governors and Guardians present at such Meeting, shall be and are hereby impowered to act as President, Vice-presidents, and Treasurer of the said Corporation for the Year next ensuing such their Election, and till others shall be elected into the said Offices.

Provided, That when and so often as any Vacancy or Vacancies shall happen by Death of any of the Presidents, Vice-presidents, or Treasurers of the said Corporation, the Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation, or the

On Death of President, &c. others to be chosen.

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

Four stated
General
Meetings on
the first *Wed-*
nesday after
Lady-day,
Midsummer,
Michaelmas,
and *Christ-*
mas.

May then ex-
ecute Leases,
and make
By-laws.

We will moreover, That there shall be every Year four stated General Meetings of the Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation, to be held on the first *Wednesdays* after *Lady-day,* *Midsummer,* *Michaelmas* and *Christmas* Days respectively; at which Meetings, and no other, the said Corporation, or the major Part of the Members thereof then present, shall and may execute Leases for Years, and make By-laws for the Well-government of the said Corporation; which By-laws, not being repugnant to the Laws and Statutes of this Our Realm, shall and may be effectually observed and kept.

major Part of them, shall have Power, at the next General or Quarterly Court that shall be kept and held by them, after such Vacancy or Vacancies shall happen, to proceed to a new Election of a President, Vice-president, or Treasurer, in the Place of the Person or Persons deceased; all which Elections shall be by way of Ballot, in such Manner, as aforesaid:

And for the better ordering and managing the Affairs of the said Corporation, **be it further enacted**, That the Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation for the Time being, or the major Part of them, are hereby impowered, at any of the General or Quarterly Courts, which shall, from time to time, be kept and held by them, to chuse and appoint One or more Committee or Committees, as Occasion shall require, for transacting such Business, and auditing the Accounts of the said Corporation, and to require the Treasurer, Officers, and Servants of the said Corporation to accompt at such Times, and in such Manner, as they shall direct, and for such other Purposes as they shall think fit; and at the said General and Quarterly Courts shall have Power

at any of the
General
Courts may
appoint
Committees.

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

No By-laws binding, until confirm'd by a succeeding General Meeting; and and same Method to alter or repeal any By-laws.

Provided nevertheless, and Our Will is,
That no such By-laws so to be made by this Corporation shall be binding, until the same shall be confirmed by some succeeding General Meeting; and that the same Method be observed in the altering or repealing any such By-laws, after they shall have been so confirm'd :

At Quarterly Meetings

may remove and displace Officers or Servants, and put others into their Rooms. Any five or more of the Committee have Power to suspend, remove, and displace any inferior Officers or Servants, and put others in their Rooms, until the next General or Quarterly Meeting.

And the Members to be present at such Quarterly Meetings, or the major Part of them then present, are hereby impowered, from time to time, to remove and displace any Officers or Servants belonging to the said Hospital, for Misdemeanors, at their Will and Pleasure, and to put others into their Rooms from time to time: And We do hereby also impower the Committee for the time being, or any Five or more of them, on any just Cause, to suspend, remove, and displace any inferior Officers or Servants, and to put others in their Rooms, until the next General or Quarterly Court or Meeting.

and put others in their Rooms, until the next General or Quarterly Meeting.

Anno decimo tertio Georgii II. Regis.

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Power to examine, allow, and pass such Accounts, and to make such By-laws as they shall think proper, for the better Government of the said Corporation: **Provided**, That no By-law so made shall have any Force or Effect till approved of by the next Quarterly General Court; **and provided also**, That the same be not inconsistent with the Laws and Statutes of this Realm.

And make
By-laws.

Provided always, and it is hereby further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That none of the Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation, or any of their Successors, who shall hereafter be elected Governors and Guardians of the said Corporation, or any Officers of the said Corporation, shall be obliged to take the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, or any Oath or Oaths whatsoever, to qualify them to execute the Office of President, Vice-president, Treasurer or any other Office, or to discharge any Trust relating to the said Corporation; any Law, Statute, Custom, or Usage to the contrary hereof in any wise notwithstanding.

Provido,

And be it further enacted, by the Authority aforesaid, That such of the Governors of the said Corporation for the time being, who shall be present at any of the said General Courts or Meetings, or the major Part of them, or any Committee or Committees chosen by the said Corporation, and empowered by them so to do, shall have Power from time to time, and at all times, to elect, suspend, remove, or displace any Officer or Officers, Servant or Servants belonging to the said Corporation, at their Discretion, without any Cause assigned.

Governors
may remove
Officers and
Servants at
Pleasure.

And

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

Thirteen or more to be present at Quarterly or General Meetings.

At any Yearly Quarterly, or other General Meeting, which the President has Power to summon at any other Times, as there shall be Occasion, may, by Ballot elect Governors to be Members of the Corporation.

Provided, That no Act in any Quarterly or other General Meeting be valid, unless Thirteen or more Members be present, and the major Part of such as shall be present be consenting thereto.

We will moreover, That the said Corporation, and their Successors, or the major Part of such of them as shall be present at any Yearly or Quarterly Court, or other General Meeting, which the President has by these Presents Power to summon at any other Times, as there shall be Occasion, may, from time to time, by Ballot, elect and chose such fit and able Persons to be Governors and Guardians, as they shall think most likely to encourage and promote the charitable Designs of the said Corporation; which Governors and Guardians so elected, shall, from and after such Election, be adjudged and deemed Members of the said Corporation, and as such shall

And be it further enacted, That in Case any inferior Officer or Servant shall refuse to accompt, as aforesaid, or to produce any Papers, Books, Vouchers, or other Effects whatsoever, which he, she, or they shall be entrusted with, by or on account of the said Corporation, that it shall and may be lawful for any Two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace of the County, Liberty, or Franchise where such Servant shall be found, on Complaint made on the Part of the said Corporation, to commit any such inferior Officer or Servant to the common Gaol of the said County, Liberty, or Franchise, there to remain without Bail or Mainprize, until he or she hath made a true Accompt, and satisfied and paid so much, as upon the said Accompt shall be remaining in his or her Hands, and has delivered up to the said Corporation such Papers, Books, Vouchers, or other Effects:

Servants
obliged to
accompt.

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

shall be summoned and admitted to vote and act by Virtue of these Presents, as fully and effectually, to all Intents and Purposes as if their Names respectively were particularly inserted to be Members thereof in and by this Our Charter.

The Corporation, and their Successors, to appoint Persons to take Subscriptions, and collect Monies.

And We will moreover, That the said Corporation, and their Successors, shall have Power to authorize and appoint such Persons as they shall think fit to take Subscriptions, and to ask of all or any of Our good Subjects and gather and collect such Monies as shall, by any Person or Persons, Bodies Politic or Corporate, Companies, or other Societies, be contributed and given for the Purposes aforesaid; and may revoke and make void such Authorities and Appointments, as often as they may see Cause so to do.

Accounts in Writing to be kept of all Receipts, Payments, & Doings; to be inspected by any Benefactor upon Occasion. 20th December in every Year, or within 14 Days, the Accounts to be examined and audited by the

And Our further Will and Pleasure is, That the said Corporation shall and may cause fair and just Accounts in Writing to be kept of all Receipts, Payments, and Doings, by them, their Officers, and Agents respectively, in relation to the Premises, which shall be liable to the View and Inspection of any Subscriber or Subscribers, Benefactor or Benefactors, upon Occasion; which said Accounts shall, on the Twentieth day of December in every Year, or within Fourteen Days after, be examined, audited, adjusted and subscribed by the Members present at such Meeting, or the major Part of them.

All Persons paying 20l. or more, or 40s. or more, annually, to have Liberty to inspect the Hospital.

Members present at such Meeting.

We will moreover, That all Persons who shall subscribe and pay to the said Corporation to the Amount of Twenty Pounds, or more, or of Forty Shillings, or more, annually, shall have free Liberty to inspect the said Hospital, and inform themselves of the State thereof, and

THE ROYAL CHARTER.

In all General Courts the President, or in case of Death or Absence, the Vice-president first named in the List of Vice-presidents then present to be the Chairman.

and of the Manner of nursing, dieting, managing, instructing, and employing the Children therein.

And further We will, That in all General Courts, the President, or, in case of his Death or Absence, the Vice-president first named in the List of Vice-presidents then present, be the Chairman of the said Court, and to have a casting Voice in case of an Equality of Votes.

And lastly Our Will and Pleasure is, That these Our Letters Patent, or the Inrolment or Exemplification thereof, shall be good, firm, valid, and effectual in the Law, according to Our Royal Intentions herein before declared; and shall be taken, construed, and adjudged, in all Our Courts, and elsewhere, in the most favourable and beneficial Sense, and for the best Advantage of the said Corporation, and their Successors; any Omission, Imperfection, Defect, Matter, Cause, or Thing whatsoever to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding, without Fine or Fee, great or small, to be for the same in any Manner rendered, done, or paid to Us in Our Hanaper, or elsewhere, to Our Use.

In Witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

Witness Ourselves at *Westminster*, the Seventeenth Day of *October*, in the Thirteenth Year of Our Reign.

By Writ of Privy Seal,

C O C K S,

And be it further enacted, That this Act shall be a public Act, and be so deemed and taken to be, and shall and may in all Cases be given in Evidence on the General Issue, and not be specially pleaded.

F I N I S.

This image shows a blank, aged, light gray page. The surface has a visible texture and is covered with numerous small dark specks, likely dust or paper inclusions. There are also some faint, larger dark spots and a vertical crease or fold line visible on the left side. The overall appearance is that of an old, weathered piece of paper.

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